Department of Energy

ROCKY FLATS FIELD OFFICE
P.O. BOX 928
GOLDEN, COLORADO 80402-0928

JAN 1 1 1995

94-DOE-12953

Andrew Archuleta
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
730 Simms, Suite 2290
Golden, Colorado 80401

Dear Mr. Archuleta:

The 86th Avenue and Kipling Street air monitoring station is located near the southwest corner of the intersection of 86th and Kipling. Construction of this station was completed on October 14, 1994. Electrical power was provided by Public Service Company on December 12, 1994. This air sampling station consists of one ultra high-volume (approximately 300 cubic feet per minute) blower motor and one filter housing unit. The air sampler will be used to collect data as part of the Rocky Flats Operable Unit 3 (OU3), Human Health Risk Assessment. This OU 3 investigation is directed by the Environmental Restoration Interagency Agreement between the Environmental Protection Agency, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, and the United States Department of Energy (DOE). This air sampler will be used in conjunction with two additional air monitoring stations planned for construction near Standley Lake. This letter only considers the 86th and Kipling station.

A noise level survey was performed at the monitoring site on December 20, 1994, to determine if noise levels generated by the blower exceed City of Arvada noise control levels. A copy of the noise monitoring results is enclosed with this letter. The noise level survey results indicate that total noise levels in excess of 85 decibels (on the A weighted scale (dBA)) were measured inside the fence enclosed air monitoring station. Noise levels were also measured approximately 70 feet north of the station, toward 86th Avenue, and near residential property boundaries located approximately 100 feet west of the station. The total noise level measured adjacent to 86th Avenue was 57.7 dBA. Total noise levels measured near the residential property boundary were 51.9 and 52.5 dBA. These measurements were made during short time intervals when noise caused by nearby automobile traffic was minimal; however, it was noted that the noise caused by nearby automobile traffic was greater than the level measured from the monitoring station. The increase from traffic noise was estimated at 10 to 15 dBA, thus the property boundary noise level from the air monitor is estimated at 42 to 37 dBA.

The City of Arvada Zoning Regulations, Chapter 19 Section 19-1, specify a noise level limit of 55 dBA at residential property boundaries during the hours of 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. After 9 p.m., the noise level limit is 50 dBA. The air monitor noise levels are within Arvada regulations.

A start-up demonstration of the monitoring station was conducted on December 21, 1994, with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), primarily for the purpose of determining if the operation of similar monitoring stations in the vicinity of the Standley Lake Bald Eagle nesting area will generate a noise level detrimental to the eagles. At the time of the demonstration, the USFWS requested any available noise frequency measures obtained during the noise level survey. Further review of the noise level survey results indicate that no sound frequency measurements were made.

The 86th Avenue and Kipling station is intended to operate continuously (24 hours per day, 7 days per week) for approximately one year. Following initial calibration and testing, the site is expected to be visited by field personnel (one to two people) once each week to remove and replace the air sampling filters. This procedure will consist of turning off the blower motor, opening the top of the filter housing to remove/replace the filters, turning the motor back on, and checking the filter to insure proper installation. This activity is expected to take a maximum of 1/2 hour per trip to perform. The sampling equipment is designed to be maintenance-free with only periodic minor servicing of the equipment anticipated (e.g. tightening air hose fittings and lubricating the blower motor).

Due to the long distance from the station to the Bald Eagle nest and minimal noise impact based on the noise level measurements, DOE has determined that the operation of the 86th Avenue and Kipling air monitor station will have no adverse effect on the nesting Bald Eagles. We anticipate immediately starting operation of the air monitoring station following your concurrence.

Please call me at 966-4839 if you have any questions or require additional information.

Sincerely,

Steven W. Slaten
IAG Project Coordinator
Environmental Restoration

Enclosure

cc w/o Enclosure:
J. Ahlquist, EM-45, HQ
C. Gesalman, EM-453, HQ
F. Lockhart, ER, RFFO
B. Birk, ER, RFFO
S. Slaten, ER, RFFO
G. Hill, ESH, RFFO
B. Lavelle, EPA
J. Schieffelin, CDPHE
M. Hestmark, EPA
D. Weber, CDOW
M. Guillaume, SAIC
S. Stiger, EG&G
M. Buddy, EG&G
T. Spence, EG&G
Admin. Record